

ALLIES FOR MEDICAID QUALITY: MCOs & DMAS

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, June 2008

NCQA Accreditation - A Symbol of Virginia's Commitment to Quality Healthcare

Virginia was one of the first states in the nation to require its Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to be accredited by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) – a mutually beneficial achievement for the MCOs, enrollees, and the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS). With more than 50% of Virginia's Medicaid population served by MCOs, the benefits of accreditation impact on more than 450,000 Virginians.

NCQA accreditation is recognized among industry leaders, consumers, government leaders, purchasers, and providers as a representation of and a commitment by the MCOs toward continuous quality improvement of health care processes and outcomes. NCQA's methods and standards for MCOs to attain *and* maintain accreditation are rigorous, ongoing, and performance-based.

The DMAS requirement of NCQA accreditation of all Medicaid MCOs is a bold quality standard that reflects the DMAS mission: *To provide a system of high quality and cost effective health care services to qualifying Virginians and their families.*

Accreditation of all Medicaid MCOs is a bold quality standard that reflects the DMAS mission

Excellence in Quality

Given the collaborative partnership and commitment to quality that is shared by DMAS and the MCOs, it is no surprise that all MCOs are NCQA accredited. Four of the five MCOs have an accreditation status level of **Excellent**, the highest attainable level. The fifth MCO is accredited as a new health plan and is working through the next phase of the accreditation process.

NCQA Accreditation Level

EXCELLENT

ANTHEM HEALTHKEEPERS PLUS
CARENET – SOUTHERN HEALTH
OPTIMA FAMILY CARE
VIRGINIA PREMIER HEALTH PLAN

NEW HEALTH PLAN ACCREDITATION

AMERIGROUP COMMUNITY CARE

Accreditation levels- Virginia's Medicaid MCOs, as of 06/01/08

Virginia MCOs Ranked in Top 100

Nearly all of Virginia's Medicaid MCOs made the *U.S. News and World Report's* esteemed list of the top 100 Medicaid MCOs in the country!

Anthem HealthKeepers Plus #33

CareNET - Southern Health #41

Optima Family Care #22

Virginia Premier Health Plan #68

Reflects most recent rankings published in 2007